

Message Text

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12

ACTION ITF-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EA-06 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SR-02

ORM-01 AID-05 FDRE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 /077 W
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O 281030Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9852

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 3746

E.O. 11652: GDUD

TAGS: AEMG

SUBJ: RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 097854

THIS MORNING DCM RAISED WITH MFA ADDITIONAL SECRETARY SHAHNAWAZ MATTER OF RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND CONVEYED TO HIM SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL. SHAHNAWAZ EXPRESSED SYMPATHY AT PLIGHT OF REFUGEES BUT STATED GOP COULD NOT CONSIDER ACCEPTING ANY FOR RESIDENCE IN PAKISTAN. WITH PAKISTAN'S BIHARI REFUGEE PROBLEM THERE WOULD BE A "TERRIFIC OUTCRY" FROM THE PUBLIC IF THE GOVERNMENT WERE TO PERMIT ANY VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO SETTLE IN PAKISTAN. HE RECALLED THAT PAKISTAN HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED 150 THOUSAND BIHARI REFUGEES FROM BANGLADESH AND IS UNDER PRESSURE FROM BANGLADESH TO ACCEPT SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND ADDITIONAL. FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, REFUGEES FROM VIETNAM--EVEN THOSE WITH PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS--WOULD SURELY NOT WANT TO SETTLE IN PAKISTAN FOR HERE THEY WOULD ONLY END UP "IN THE LONG QUEUES" OF THOSE SEEKING WELFARE ASSISTANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

BYROADE

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